



GARS News

This Month:

Meeting Minutes	p.5
New Columnist	p.7
Rookie Radio	p.8
GARS Net Notes	p.9
Yam Delight	p.10
Twilight Zone Skip	p.10
ARES News	p.11
and Much, Much, Much, Much, Much, Much more...	

November, 1994

GARS News

Page 1

The PRESIDENT'S PEN *by Howard Gould, W4NMF*

We left off last month with activities planned for Benefield Elementary, Arcado Elementary, Tribble Mill Park and HRO. All of these efforts were not only very rewarding, but we as a group did an outstanding job of exposing amateur radio to children and adults with very high interest coming from all sides.

Again we thank all of those GARS members who attended some and all of these events with special mention being given to Mary, KE4MFZ; Duane, KD4KCR; David, KA4KKF and others

who organized the Tribble Mill Park experience.

Thanks also to Randy, AC4PD; Jim, KR4XY; Tammy, KE4IKK and others who organized the Benefield Elementary exercise.

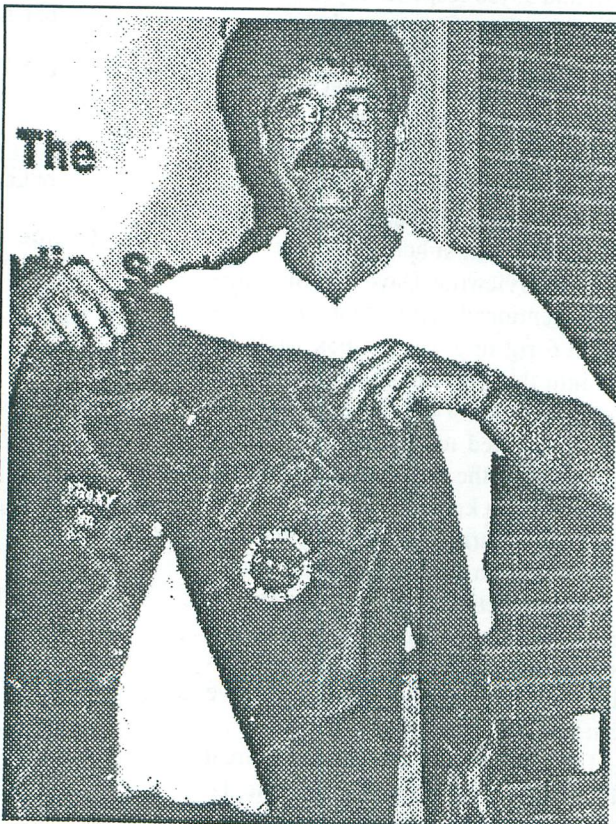
Thanks to Joe, AD4PZ; Ike, KE4GYM and others who organized the HRO experience.

Randy, AC4PD, his wife Sue, and many school officials at Arcado Elementary along with many, many GARS members made the Arcado exercise probably one of the best events that GARS has sponsored this year. I am told that the turn-out at Arcado was outstanding and that the children had one heck of a time. Many, many contacts with other countries were made over HF frequencies - with the children

logging in on the GARS banner. I am told the large banner had no more room for additional signatures at the end of the day.

It is most encouraging to say the least to see that GARS is showing a lot of interest from the membership in providing the manpower and womanpower to back up these events. We have been working together as a group contributing our combined assets of individual knowledge to work as team - and it

(Prez, continued on P.3)



Jim Baker, KR4XY shows off the new red GARS jacket at the October meeting. Check out the custom embroidered name and callsign on the right side! These have been selling like hotcakes ever since the meeting, so contact Jim to place your order right away!

GARS goes to ARCADE ELEMENTARY

by Randy Drescher, AC4PD

On October 22nd, GARS members participated in a live Amateur Radio demonstration at Arcado Elementary School in Lilburn as part of the school's Fall Festival. This was our second venture into an elementary school environment - the first having been at Benefield Elementary on October 8th.

With some preliminary negotiation, we were able to secure a covered sight and a parking place in close proximity to the location since the Texas Bug-catcher HF Mobile Antenna was used and mag-mounted on my Crown Victoria. We used my Kenwood TS450-S as our HF Rig.

(Arcado, continued on P.3)

DAVID C. RIFE, AD2Q

GARS

HAM OF THE MONTH

by J. Pickett Cummins, AD4S

Some of you may recall that earlier this year, Dave was the net control for the Hog Mountain Bike Race. He is such a quiet fellow, you may not realize what a real quintessential ham Dave really is.

Dave began his ham career at a fairly young age (which we won't reveal) in Port Angeles, Washington. He began in September, 1951 as W7PYW. His first rig was a home-brew CW transmitter using a 6L6 in the final and a military surplus ARC5 transmitter. You have got to be a really old ham like Howie to remember what that stuff looked like. (ed. note: I still have a complete ARC5 transmitter).

Dave began his academic career at Washington University in St. Louis and eventually got his BSE degree in

(HAM, continued on P.2)

GARS News

GARS News is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, submit *News* items in ASCII format by posting a private message to Dean Matthews on the *GARS* conference of the Scientific Atlanta BBS (903-5487), then use the Save Attached save command, which will prompt you to upload your ASCII file. Art can be accepted in TIFF or PCX format on IBM compatible disk.

Contact the Editor for odd format compatibility, or other means of transfer. Deadline for article submissions is the first Thursday of each month.

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(HAM, continued from p. 1)

electrical engineering from the University of Washington in Seattle. Bell Labs in New Jersey snared this budding engineer and Dave proceeded to spend 24 years with them in New Jersey where he was awarded the call sign of WA2PGA.

Bell Labs decided that Dave needed more training so they sent him back to school at NYU where he was awarded his masters degree. In 1978 Dave upgraded to Extra Class and received his present call of AD2Q. Once again, Dave went back to school (seems like he would eventually learn everything) and he attended Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute where he received his Ph.D. in electrical engineering.

In 1984 Dave came to Atlanta to help out a small but growing enterprise. Hayes Microcomputer Products. Dave has three grown children and 4.5 grandchildren and based on my calculations has been married to Joyce for 32 years. One interesting note is that sometimes when some one asks for "Dr. Rife" both David and Joyce respond. Joyce recently received her Dr. of Ministry degree.

Dave is a CW aficionado at heart. He currently has a Kenwood TS-130S on HF feeding a long wire with a homebrew antenna tuner. He said he had "some kind" of a Kenwood 2 meter rig in his car and a museum quality Heath 2036 in his shack at home.

In interviewing Dave for this article, he mentioned that he took his homebrew 6L6 rig in a wooden box when he went into the US Air Force and used to hang a wire out of the barracks window when he wanted to operate. Dave spent four years in the air force repairing radios (don't you know?).

Dave is currently spending most of his free time in the "personal computer frustration" activity. He and his family are also avid trail hikers. (the author has also enjoyed many miles on the Appalachian Trail and enjoyed talking to Dave about this activity).

Dave is another one of our "Great *GARS* Guys" that you all should take the time to get to know. If you don't know him, just look for the tall, slender, intelligent looking "mature" gentleman at the next *GARS* meeting. ♦

GARS GROWS GREATLY BY GOLLY!

Fifteen new members were voted in at the October meeting!

Welcome these Hams to *GARS*:

Wayne Wright, AD4MY
of Snellville, Ga

Frank Deak, AF4Y
of Lawrenceville., Ga

David Norris, KD4FAR
of Dacula, Ga

Bob Langley, KD4SHD
of Lawrenceville, Ga

Doug Frey, KE4PLU
of Lawrenceville, Ga

John Durant, KE4PZE
of Dacula, Ga

David Lankford, KE4QFV
of Lawrenceville, Ga

George Lankford, KE4QFW
of Lawrenceville, Ga

David Neidlinger, KE4REB
of Snellville, Ga

Gary Coffman, KE4ZV
of Lawrenceville, Ga

David Jordan, WA4AGE
of Lilburn, Ga

Ray Cummins, WD9GMP
of Norcross, Ga

Awaiting Calls or Studying:

Shane Porter of Doraville, Ga
David Turner of Chamblee, Ga
Derrec Utley of Grayson, Ga

Welcome these new members at the next club meeting or on the air! -ED ♦

(Arcado, continued from p. 1)

Early arrivals to the site after me included Lewis, KE4QOV and his wife Jennie, KE4QNE who helped set up. We started on 20 meter SSB and made several contacts around the continental US. Just out of curiosity, I checked 17 meters which is my favorite HF band for mobile work.

The band was wide open into all areas of the US and Europe/Africa. With some drizzle and overcast skies, the traffic on the part of kids and adults was slow at first but picked up a great deal afterward.

New arrivals Cheryl, KE4JKM, and David, WA4AGE also participated in the activities. David unfortunately couldn't stay long but made a number of contacts with the kids and their smiles made his day.

Cheryl had indicated that she couldn't stay too long because of wanting (?) to study but she enjoyed the event so well she almost stayed to the end (hours were from 10AM to 4PM). A major saving grace was Charles, AD4MI - who while a later arrival, proved to be a savior. He and I were swamped with kids

year-old second grader named Abby Graham who inquired of our contact in the Yukon Territory - *Do you have a sled and some huskies to pull it?* The second involved the principal of the school, Linda Nevell, who talked to a ham in Belgium. She was totally in awe, and was amazed that he spoke English as well as he did.

All in all this GARS outreach activity was a resounding success - so much so that the director of the festival asked if we could return next year. I want to thank all who participated and also acknowledge the folks on the repeater who took the time to talk to the kids as well. My only disappointment is that we didn't have more GARS folks out there to enjoy the fun - especially the folks without HF privileges. Y'all missed a great time! ♦



Ohmigosh, where did the log go?

A young prospective ham gets help logging at a recent GARS demonstration. If you have missed one of these demonstrations, you have missed some great fun! Join us the next time GARS sponsors a special event.

As the visitors got into it (so did Lewis and Jennie!), we made more and more contacts and soon the kids were starting to fill up the poster we brought by signing their name and the place they talked to. Contacts were made with France, Germany, Belgium, Slovakia, and the Canary Islands among others. Lewis made a good acquaintance with Terry in the Canary Islands who must have talked to at least 5-10 kids alone.

and adults for the last two hours but we had a ball.

Several adults and kids took literature and inquired about GARS. My position is that if one and only one individual pursues a license and joins GARS (or vice versa) - our outreach to the community has been beneficial and successful.

Two highlights of the day are worthy of mention. The first involves a 7

NEW CALLSIGNS

Steve Sims, KS4EV
Bob Snipes, KS4EP
Mary Stowell, KR4YV
Jim Baker, KR4XY

(Prez, continued from p. 1)

shows no matter where we are. We are finding that not only do we have a good clean hobby to have fun in, we also have many talented friends who have a world of knowledge to share with us, and we are indeed blessed to have so many people offering their help to each other among the membership.

And how about that membership? Those of you who were at the last meeting saw 15 new members being sworn in! We picked up a couple at HRO and a couple more a day or so later and then another at the last VE test session. We are now at 180-plus, and growing. What is the secret? Can anybody guess? It's quite simple really - it's called recognition of your fellow man and woman.

Everybody in GARS is somebody special. You make mistakes with the hobby and you find a helping hand

(Prez, continued on P.4)

Contact GARS

OFFICERS 1994-1995

President:

W4NVF Howard Gould 921-8362

Vice President:

KD4QFD Larry Osborne 972-1185

Secretary:

KE4GYM Ike Chapman 339-8123

Treasurer:

WA4QYY Charles Evans 448-0930

Activities Mgr:

KA4KKF David Adcock 963-5767

News Editor:

AD4OD Dean Matthews 962-8941

License Trustee:

KO4ZS Paul Bennett 206-0215

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KD4EHG Buddy Dowdell 476-1616

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W4NZJ Jud Whatley 972-1940

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Control Operators:

KD4QFD Larry Osborne 972-1185

KE4EMA Jack Herndon 995-0438

AD4PZ Joe Biddle 963-4316

KE4GYM Ike Chapman 339-9231

KD4KCR Duane Hansen 962-6086

W4NVF Howie Gould 921-8362

KA4EMV Bob DeVeau 923-3963

K4HRB Ron Davidson 466-4932

Membership:

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Publicity:

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W4WKP Johnny Fearon 466-4038

Rookie Radio:

KE4JKM Cheryl McClure 995-5159

Field Day:

KE4DYY Vincent Hrabosky 246-9630

Ham Classes:

KA9UIE Steve Idler 513-0428

HF/VHF/UHF Awards Manager:

KE4GGP Don Ennest 923-4851

DXCC Awards Checker:

AF4Y Frank Deak 978-6546

JOIN GARS

Membership dues for the 1994-1995 are:

\$25.00 for Individual Memberships

\$35.00 for Family Memberships

Call Jack Herndon, KE4EMA at 995-0438 for more information about joining GARS.

(Prez, continued from p. 3)

rather than a look and a shrug. You are encouraged as a member of GARS to talk about it, let it out, join in the fun. All the old timers are willing to help if you ask them, and all the newcomers into the hobby who join GARS can get a boost right off the start by becoming a very important person to us.

Our last meeting at Williams Seafood Of Savannah was a success as was told by many a member who attended. I have asked you all to keep your ears and eyes open because we are a club without a permanent home now and we need to find a permanent place to hold our meetings. If any of you have any leads give them to Jim Massara, N2EST.

ANOTHER GARS EVENT?

There is a chance we will be asked to put up a table, to help promote GARS, at HRO again on the 12th of November during Kenwood Days. This is an excellent time for us find new members from the metro Atlanta area. Since this is an amateur radio related day, it brings us together with many other hams from other clubs and we get the exposure we need. Stay tuned to the net and repeater for further details.

GARS APPAREL A SUCCESS

Jim, KR4XY - our apparel chairman has come up with a winner. At our last executive meeting in October, Jim gave us some choices for GARS colors and material to be worn at Ham related events. The executive committee was excited, as was Jim, as he discussed the availability of items. For starters, we chose the colors - which were a very nice red with white and gold embroidered lettering showing the GARS logo and call sign and name.

This is being done by a local mom and pop operation at very reasonable pricing. The first item we approved was a cold weather jacket good for all of the up and coming weather through spring. It is quilted and light being made of 100% nylon. The cost is \$45.00 total with \$7.00 of that going to the club to.

I asked Jim, KR4XY to exit the meeting place and put on the jacket. Then we called him in at a specified time and had him parade, so to speak, in front of all the members attending the

meeting. We had a short discussion period after which we took a vote and all present approved the colors and logo arrangement.

We have taken many orders so if you want to be in style with GARS, you need to send a check to the GARS Treasurer at P.O. Box 88, Lilburn, Ga 30226 in the amount of \$45.00. Include your call sign and name on the check showing your size. All sizes are available, and you need to confirm your order with Jim at his listed phone number in the roster which is 497-0479.

He will order the jacket for you and GARS will be invoiced so please see that your check arrives in time for the billing. Other garments will be available including a cap with same colors and GARS logo on it. There is a complete line available for men and woman so see Jim about your preferences and he will try to get some catalogs for you

November Highlights

David, KA4KKF is planning a fox hunt on the 13th of November (Sunday). If you are interested in having a lot of fun, call him and let him know you are planning on being there.

Our November club meeting will be held at Williams Seafood Of Savannah. (The particulars are elsewhere in this issue.) We have been promised even more service by the General Manager, and it is my understanding that he will work with us on the time as they close to normal business at 9:30PM. In fact, he told me if we had a 100 or so people he would give us the main eating room for the meeting and put the rest of his customers in the room we were in at the last meeting.

The arrangement we have has potential of becoming a good meeting place but we may find a better place to hold our meetings with the help of the committee assigned to that job, and with possible future leads from the membership.

December Highlights

It is apparent that there is not enough interest in a Christmas party for the club this year, so we will have our regular meeting in December with the

(Prez, continued on P.5)

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 20, 1994

In attendance: Howard Gould, W4NVF, President; Larry Osborne, KD4QFD, Vice President; Ike Chapman, KE4GYM, Secretary; Charles Evans, WA4QYY, Treasurer; David Adcock, KA4KKF, Activities Manager; Dean Matthews, AD4OD, Newsletter Editor

The meeting was convened at Williams Seafood Restaurant in Duluth at 19:30 local time by President Gould. All members and visitors were invited to introduce themselves, a total of 54 people signed the meeting log. David, KA4KKF introduced the speaker for the program, David Babulski, N4XVF who presented a program on Amateur Radio and Radio Astronomy.

Following the program the business meeting was resumed, with the minutes of the September meeting being approved as published in the newsletter.

Charles, WA4QYY, gave the treasurers report with a beginning balance of \$4505.53, income of \$175.00, and expenditures of \$441.90, for a current balance of \$4238.63.

Howie, W4NVF presented certificates from the ARRL recognizing the contributions of Duane, KD4KCR, Arnold, KC4ZUA, and Cheryl, KE4JKM for the volunteer efforts during the floods in middle and south Georgia.

Howie, W4NVF, made the club aware of expenditures approved during the executive meeting on October 13. The committee authorized Charles, WA4QYY to spend \$231.00 on a 70 cm, 9600 baud TNC for the Snellville packet node. The committee also authorized Charles, WA4QYY to spend \$50.00 to replace the base section on the tower at the Snellville repeater site due to the deteriorating condition of the present base.

Charles and members of the East Atlanta LAN will provide the manpower to replace the base section. The committee authorized the purchase of 50 tickets for Ham Radio 95 at \$5.00 per ticket for a total expenditure of \$250.00 and voted to sell the tickets to any interested person for \$7.00 (face value is \$8.00). Ike, KE4GYM has the tickets for any interested parties.

Larry, KD4QFD, gave a report on his first advisory board meeting with Ham Radio 95.

Jim, KR4XY, introduced the GARS jacket and colors approved at the executive committee meeting on October 13. The jacket can be purchased for \$45.00 with name and callsign or for \$40.00 with the GARS logo only, \$7.00 for each jacket will go to the club, by contacting Jim. Hats and other items such as golf shirts will be offered for sale at a later date.

Ike, KE4GYM presented 15 candidates for GARS membership. A motion was made and seconded to accept all 15 as GARS members and the motion was passed without opposition.

The new GARS members are: George H. Lankford, KE4QFW; David M. Lankford, KE4QFV; David Turner, Associate Member; Shane Porter, Associate Member; John Durant, KE4PZE; David C. Jordan, WA4AGE; Gary Coffman, KE4ZV; Frank G. Deak, AF4Y; David Neidlinger, KE4REB; Derrec K. Utley, Associate Member; Rod "Wayne" Wright, AD4MY; Doug Frey, KE4PLU; Raymus (Ray) E. Cummins, WD9GMP; David Norris, KD4FAP; Bob Langley, KD4SHD

Howie announced that Frank, AF4Y is now recognized by the ARRL as a DXCC field checker.

Randy, AC4PD discussed the upcoming radio demonstration at Arcado Elementary School on October 22. Randy reported that he had everything ready for the demonstration except volunteers to staff the event. All interested should contact Randy ASAP.

A discussion of the repeater and the repeater sites was then taken up.

Howie reported on some of the discussion he is having with Jim Thomas at Gwinnett County concerning the Snellville site and the possible use by GARS of a 200 foot tower at that site. Bob, KA4EMV reported on the current status of the repeater and asked for input from club members based on his presentation at the last meeting.

David, KA4KKF is trying to organize a foxhunt for the November club activity.

Howie asked for a volunteer to chair a Christmas party committee or if none was forthcoming a regular meeting would be held during December.

Johnny, W4WKP asked for volunteers for the nominating committee.

Larry, KD4QFD discussed the GARS Ham of the Year award. Nominations for the award should be based on the following criteria: The GARS Ham of the Year should be someone who has exhibited devotion, dedication and meritorious service to and on behalf of the GARS and Amateur Radio, and has contributed greatly to the advancement of the GARS and Amateur Radio during the past year. All members of the executive committee are excluded from consideration for this award. All nominations for this award should be given to any of the officers or mailed to the GARS Post Office box. Nominations for this award will be closed at the end of the business meeting at the November club meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 22:05 local time. ♦

(Prez, continued from p. 4)

hopes of issuing the Ham Of The Year Award, and Service Awards to those GARS members selected by the executive committee through membership nominations. Get your nominations in folks - time is running out. Before you know it will be election time and all you members will have to pick a new slate of officers for 1995. Remember that the new bylaws call for a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Activities Manager. There is no limit on how long you have to be a member to be an officer. If you think you would make a good officer of the club and keep up the present club activities and provide good leadership for the members, then please come forward

Activities Planned

We will be slowing down for the cool months ahead on any outdoor activities for the club, but we will still be doing things like having good programs for our meetings, and possible indoor school programs with the middle schools where there is more potential for future amateur radio operators.

It would be nice if we could sponsor a school radio club with possible donation of old equipment for them and act as their advisor providing them operating skills and knowledge about the equipment. These are some of the things we need to build on.

Communications Expansion Plans

We need to think serious about our plans for expansion of our communication network.

I have been working with Jim Thomas, WB4HCV on another tower and repeater building at the Lanier Mountain site in Snellville which would give us additional height and security for our equipment.

I have also asked George, KD4SIL to give us a report on both sites showing the pattern and coverage for both Lawrenceville and Snellville.

I am really not a repeater builder, although if I was asked to put together a system with the help of others, I could very well do so. But since I am the Prez, and we have so much talent out there who have had the experience doing this,

(Prez, continued on P.6)

QUA

1st Tuesday,

Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers
Old Hickory House on Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd. in Dunwoody. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, followed by meeting. TI-145.41-

1st Wednesday -

HamWatch

Shoney's 11690 Alpharetta Hwy., Roswell (about 2 1/2 miles North of Holcomb Bridge Rd across from North Fulton Hospital) Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting is at 7:30 PM

1st Thursday

N.E. Georgia Amateur Radio Club
Jefferson Civic Center, off Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson. Meeting is at 6:30PM. TI-147.225+

1st Thursday -

Atlanta Radio Club

Kitteredge Magnet School, North Druid Hills Rd. and Briarcliff. 6:00PM. Meeting is at 7:30PM TI-146.82-

2nd Wednesday

North Fulton Radio League

Cherokee Cattle Company, 11208 Alpharetta Hwy. Dinner at 6:00PM. Meeting at 7:30PM TI-145.47-

2nd Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at 7:30PM. TI-146.76-

2nd Saturday

East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at 10:00AM. TI-145.41-

3rd Thursday

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Williams Seafood, 3560 Buford Hwy, Just north of Pleasant Hill Rd.. Dinner begins around 6:00PM, and last through the program and meeting which follow. TI-147.075+

(Prez, continued from p. 5)

I would like to see that talent put to good use and I would encourage the club membership as a whole to be one large Repeater Committee and be welcome to share in the building of the system. Let us know what you have to offer in the way of time and talent and what you can do to contribute to the success of the system.

To make it easy for everyone to contribute their input, I am dissolving the existing Repeater Committee, and each and every member of GARS becomes a helper in their own right immediately.

The contact points for your input are Bob, KA4EMV, and any officer of the club. The Executive Committee will make their decisions based upon the overall urgency of the addition to the Communications System, available funding, and a final vote from the membership. This move gives every member a chance to be recognized.

We will welcome donations of equipment that will add to the overall performance of the Communications System. We will need hams familiar with plotting repeater coordinates that need to be filed with SERA whenever we re-coordinate. We will need ground crews, climbers, electricians, electronic wiring specialists, painters, carpenters, general laborers, and mechanical assemblers.

We have repeater sites where agreements with the county were reached in 1992 that are dark secrets to all but the original Repeater Committee and a few more that need to be brought out into the light and explored for future use by the club. There are tons of things the members can do.

I will be working with our only contact with the county communications network Jim Thomas, WB4HCV who will I am sure have some answers for us on a lot of missing puzzle pieces. We in turn will be giving Jim some support for the up-and-coming 1996 Olympics - through ARES or directly through GARS - whichever serves the purpose best.

Meanwhile, your support of all the GARS events - like Ham 95 - and the Atlanta Hamfest planned for July 14th and 15th, where we have been asked to

return for a repeat performance on security, can put a lot into the purchase of repeater equipment. All extra you put into the GARS apparel will also build up a considerable amount in our treasury so we can meet our future goals.

If many of you recall, back in September, Bob, KA4EMV at our regular meeting, gave us a print out of many options we had in building up our Communications System. He has had little if any input from members on that proposal. Keep it in mind and make a point of discussing it whenever you have a chance to do so.

We will be issuing user codes for the new repeater in the very near future as soon as Bob, KA4EMV can print out a list. He also will be issuing control operator sheets for those waiting on them.

Well, that's about it for this month. There is a lot to think about and to formulate. There can be no stopping our purpose in being together as a club, and that is to promote amateur radio to it's fullest, promote family togetherness, create a fraternalism we all can be proud of, and help each other on a daily basis... and again, thanks for your support.

73,

Howie, W4NVF

A Not Very Funny production ♦

GARS Fox Hunt

November 13

A GARS sponsored fox hunt will take place Sunday, November 13th at 1:30PM. We will be meeting at the Gwinnett Place Mall parking lot between Sears and the movie theater where teams will be assembled. All are welcome.

The hidden transmitter (fox) will be within a 5 mile area and the hunt should last about 2 hours.

Call David Adcock, KA4KKF at 963-5767 for more information. ♦

GARS News gets New Columnist for Ham of Month

by Dean Matthews, AD4OD

You will notice that this month a new author has taken the torch of writing the Ham of The Month for our newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Johnny Fearon, W4WKP for faithfully writing the articles for the last year or so. Johnny did a great job the whole time he did it, but recently asked to be relieved when I could find a replacement for him.

I let the author choose his subjects by whatever criteria he sees fit. Johnny blended introducing new members and re-introducing old members equally well. The hams he selected and wrote about were as follows:

Subject:	Issue:
Randy Drescher, AC4PD	October, 1993
Howie Gould, W4NVF	November, 1993
George Sensibar, W9RR	December, 1993
Tom Henderson, AC4UR	January, 1994
Pickett Cummins, AD4S	February, 1994
Jay Sager, WA4BXA	March, 1994
Jud Whitley, W4NZJ	May, 1994
Steve Burel, AD4LY	June, 1994
Duane Hansen, KD4KCR	July, 1994
Arnold Solomon, KC4ZUA	August, 1994
Dave Livesay, AD4UU	September, 1994
Arlin Lambert, KB5UKL	October, 1994

As you can see by the list, that was a lot of research and writing. Thanks, again Johnny for a job well done and much appreciated.

Pickett Cummins, AD4S has agreed to become the new Ham of the Month author for the GARS News. Help him out by making suggestions about who you think would make a good subject for future issues.

ADVERTISE IN GARS NEWS

We are now accepting a limited number of advertisements for publication in the GARS News.

Contact either Jim Baker, KC4YBQ at 479-0479, Joe Biddle, AD4PZ at 963-4316 or Dean Matthews, AD4OD at 962-8941 for more information.

All of the proceeds from the sale of advertisements go to support the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, a non-profit ARRL Affiliated Special Service organization.

Thanks

A special thanks to Pete (K4LDR) and Margaret (KE4CXI) Shaw, for the donation of a four foot rack mount cabinet for use with the GARS repeater system.

Thanks also go to Jack Herndon, KE4EMA and Joe Biddle, AD4PZ for copying and mailing your GARS News every month!

> 12 STORE BUYING POWER! <

HAM RADIO OUTLET

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DSS, QSK, Passband Tuning

ROOKIE RADIO NOTES

by Cheryl McClure, KE4JKM

GARS 1994 CW class was a great success. I have already gone from no-code to passing my 5 WPM element. I hope to be ready for my 13 WPM test soon. I think everyone that stuck with it will upgrade at least one level. Thank you very much to Duane, KD4KCR, for teaching and to David, KA4KKF, for helping out. The class presented Duane with a certificate recognizing him for his patience, fortitude and sense of humor. If you could have heard us the first night we tried sending code with practice oscillators, you would understand the patience and fortitude part. It sounded like a traffic jam at a Toyota factory. Duane presented the graduates with their diplomas predicting impending "upgrades of implausible proportion". We will try to start another CW class early next year. Until then, go ahead and start learning on your own.

Keep that character speed high to avoid the dreaded counting dits and dahs syndrome! And don't look at your paper! Well, you'll understand when you get to class.

We are still trying to meet Wednesday nights on 10 meters for a CW rag-chew. We originally set it for 8 PM until we realized that would take us away from the ARES net. Lets try meeting at 8:45 PM on 28.330. If that frequency is busy we will move a short distance up or down the dial. I want to encourage anyone that doesn't mind copying code sent around 8 to 10 WPM to join in. We have improved our sending capability. Really, we have!

Plans are being made for another Fox Hunt soon. Would anyone like to get together to build direction finding antennas? I'll find someone to help us with the technical details. This is an

antenna workshop we can do indoors out of the cold weather. Give me a call if you're interested (995-5159). There is also a chance we may have a seminar on building Quad antennas soon. Be sure to stay tuned for this one.

ARRL Sweepstakes is coming up in November. Rumor has it that this is a good contest for rookies. If you don't have HF capabilities or privileges, stay tuned to the Tuesday night net. I may have an announcement concerning the offer of an open house (or open shack as it were). With a control operator present even the no-code technicians can talk to Europe, Africa, South America and beyond. This will be a great chance for you to find out if you want to put the time in to learn the code. I think one taste will have you hooked.

As always, if there is any subject you want to learn more about, please let me know. The experienced operators are more than willing to share their knowledge and experience if we will only ask.

◆



Big Ike, KE4GYM "control ops" for a young fellow at a recent GARS sponsored Ham demonstration. The kids take to microphones like a duck to water.

WORK GARS

REPEATER

GARS 2-Meter
FM repeater 147.075 MHz +600

TELEPHONE BBS

GARS Conference in
Sci-Atl phone BBS 903-5487

6-METER BEACON

WA4IOB 6 Meter Beacon at 50.075 MHz

PACKET

WD4JXR-6 / SNELLV Packet
Node/Digipeater 145.03 MHz

SWAP, WANTED and SELL NET

Tuesdays at 8:00PM on the
GARS Repeater. 147.075 MHz

MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSION

An interactive Morse Code practice session immediately follows the 8:00P.M. Tuesday night net on the GARS repeater, and on Thursdays at 9:00P.M..

GARS

NET NOTES

by Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

The GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net meets each Tuesday at 2000 hours local time on the GARS 2 meter repeater. All amateurs licensed for 2 meters are invited to check into the net regardless of whether or not they are club members. All GARS members are encouraged to check-in and participate in our weekly net.

I've been asked to describe what is like to be a net control. The first time as net control for me was last December on the GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net that Duane, KD4KCR had been running as net control. Duane had asked for volunteers to help with the weekly net, boy that sounds familiar. I talked to him on the way to work one morning and told him I'd give it a try. Duane faxed me the preamble for the net and I called him and asked him a few questions, the main one being when did he want me to run it for him. Duane's answer was "how about tonight?", so I took a deep breath and said okay.

Several times during the day I pulled out that preamble and read through it to familiarize myself with what I was going to say. I got home, ate dinner and read the preamble again a couple of times. At that time the net started at 2100 hours local so I had plenty of time to get nervous waiting for the clock to tick off the minutes.

I got my radio all connected to the outside antenna, I was running off a HT and a power supply at the time. Now that I was convinced that everything was ready I sat back to wait for 2100 to arrive. As I was sitting there it dawned on me that while I had read that preamble twenty or so times during the day, I had not once read it out loud. I looked at the clock and noticed that I had 15 minutes before the net started, so I sat there reading the preamble to myself to get used to

hearing the words. My wife stuck her head in several times and I'm sure she thought I was absolutely nuts (she probably still does) as I sat there reading the preamble over and over.

The clock clicked over to 2100, well LCD's don't click but I sure thought I could hear it click. I keyed the PTT button and began the net with the now familiar call of CQ CQ CQ All Radio Amateurs from KE4GYM. As I proceeded through the preamble and would unkey at various points during the preamble, all that was there was silence, very unnerving silence.

Then it came time to ask for check-ins and to my amazement, there were people out there and they were responding to my call and checking in. I was also amazed that I managed to write down the callsigns, names, and locations without missing too much. I took down all the check-ins, handled the traffic for the net and found that I was enjoying myself. It seemed all too soon that I had finished all the traffic and had no other stations checking in to the net.

I took a deep breath and closed the net. I sat there for a few minutes and felt proud of myself for jumping in and volunteering and you know it didn't hurt a bit.

I've had many people tell me that couldn't possibly keep up with all the check-ins and information that comes with running a net but I've got to tell you that once you get rolling it comes very easily. And after you have run the net several times you get so that recognize the voices of the stations checking in and have most of the information written down before they give it all.

Of course this can trip you up when someone gets a new call sign. I remember when Joe Biddle upgraded to his current extra callsign and he checked in with "This is" and I immediately started writing KR4IK when he keyed up again and continued with "AD4PZ, Joe from Suwanee". It took me a few minutes to catch back up from that one.

But in all seriousness, running the weekly net is fun and a way to meet a lot of people on the air. It's also a great method of training for possible emergency communications. One day you might be called upon to handle traffic or to serve as a net control in a real emergency situation and by helping out with the weekly GARS net you'll get lots of practice at doing just that.

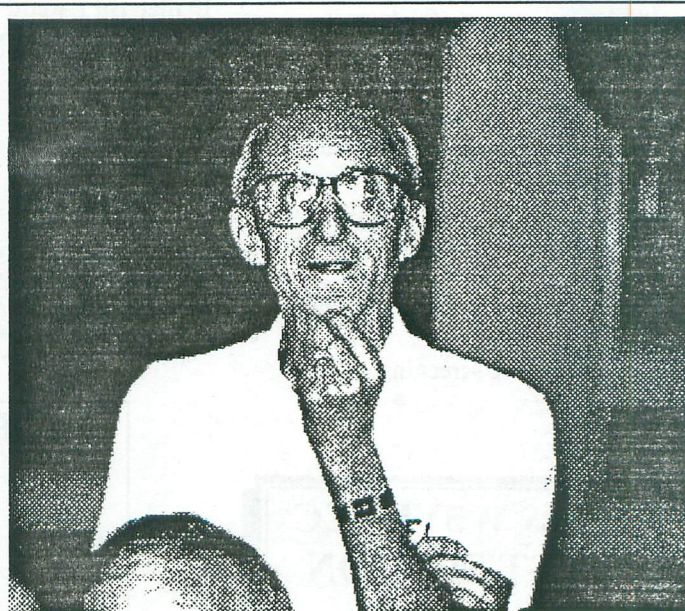
The current record for check-ins for the weekly GARS nets stands at 40 on July 5 with Ike, KE4GYM serving as NCS. The nets for the past six weeks had check-ins as follows:

09/27/94: 23 with Johnny, W4WKP as NCS
10/04/94: 30 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS
10/11/94: 20 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS
10/18/94: 28 with Dennis, KE4IKO as NCS
10/25/94: 34 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS
11/01/94: 24 with Jenny, KE4QNE as NCS

Hope to see you on the net.

73,

Ike, KE4GYM



GARS has a new DXCC Awards Checker. he is Frank Deak, AF4Y and is pictured above. This is quite an accomplishment for Frank, as the country requirements for this post are incredible. Take a minute and talk to this interesting gentleman at the next GARS get-together..

Carolyn's Sweet Potato Delight A Thanksgiving Treat

Submitted by Steve Burel, AD4LY

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 29oz Can of sweet potatoes
- 1/2 cup White sugar
- 2 egg Whites
- 1/2 cup Evaporated milk
- 3/4 stick Unsalted butter
- 1/2 tsp Nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp Cinnamon

TOPPING:

- 3/4 cup Crushed corn flakes
- 1/2 cup Packed brown sugar
- 3/4 Stick butter
- Mix well

DIRECTIONS:

Drain and mash sweet potatoes.
Add all other ingredients and mix well with mixer for 1 to 2 minutes
Pour into casserole dish and bake for 25-30 minutes at 400 degrees.
Remove from heat.
Spread topping over potatoes.
Bake 10 more minutes at 400 degrees.
Yields 6 to 8 servings.

SERVING SUGGESTION:

Place large serving on plate, with glass of milk next to your operating position.
Tune across 80 meters until you find an intelligent conversation (this is the hardest part of all).
Set back and eat slowly while you enjoy listening to Ham radio.

Get a cholesterol screening as soon as possible. ♦

TWILIGHT ZONE SKIP

by Steve Burel, AD4LY

Without getting into all the ironic and sometimes even eerie circumstances in which one often finds oneself in this hobby, here's one for my book.

In October, I had a lengthy and interesting CW QSO with N4IL of Salem, KY. One of the subjects we discussed were muskidine grapes, and I offered to send him some home-made jelly, since he'd never tasted them.

A couple of days later, I went to check my log to verify his call before looking his address up in the Sam's database and lo, irony of irony, here's what my dBase log showed me:

DATE	CALL	RST	FREQ.	TIME
10/11/93	N4IL	599	40/CW	1500
10/11/94	N4IL	599	40/CW	1600

Within the same hour, on the same day of the month, exactly one year after the first QSO with Horace, were the only two QSO's we have ever had. Amazing!

If that isn't weird enough, it happened again a couple weeks later with another station!

DATE	CALL	RST	FREQ.	TIME
10/26/93	K2BU	599	40/CW	1305
10/26/94	K2BU	599	40/CW	1330

(What did you think? It WAS almost Halloween, and the first guy WAS from SALEM! Maybe he was witch,... or maybe Steve lives in the center of the Lawrenceville Triangle! -ED) ♦

HOW TO SINK A GROUND ROD

by Ralph Grover, NS2S

When it was time to install the ground rods for my station some years ago, I climbed up a wobbly step ladder and pounded away at the wobbly rods with a sledge hammer until they sank to the right level. Their tops ended up battered like circus tent pegs.

I recently observed the installation of a round rod for the new N3VT repeater, and found out how the pros do it. Don, N2GHV, who puts in lots of ground rods in his business, chucked one into a heavy-duty half-inch electric hammer-drill, and zipped in into the ground slick as a whistle in 30 seconds - no banging and no cauliflower deformation of the top of the rod..

-From the "Peconic Amateur Radio Club Newsletter as reprinted in the ARNS Bulletin -ED



Guest speaker David Babulski, N4XVF presented a great program on Amateur Radio and Radio Astronomy at the October GARS Meeting.

6-95

GARS W5YI-VEC TEST SESSION

4th Friday at St. John Neumann Church at 801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks Trickum Road, Lilburn. Contact Howie Gould, W4NVF at 921-8362.
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ARES News

by Pat Runkle, KC4DOO

October was a very busy month for Gwinnett County ARES. Our ARES net meets each Wednesday at 8:00PM on the GARS repeater on 147.075+. Ike Chapman, KE4GYM is the net manager and is always looking for those individuals that are interested in being net control for a night, or even a month.

You can select any date you wish by just contacting Ike either on our net, or by telephone. I have had a number of stations checking in on the nets, and am able to keep track of the hams who are participating. I hope to have a certificate or some other form of recognition for those who check in on a regular basis, and for those who become net control operators.

On October 15th, we had a simulated emergency drill (SET) that tested our message handling ability and our readiness for an earthquake in middle Georgia with scores of injuries. We had

36 operators take part in the drill that lasted over 3 hours and handled 38 third-party messages plus several two-party ones. the scoring for this event is not complete yet and the results will be known next month.

I want to thank all who were a part of this exercise and hope some valuable information was gained by all. If you missed participating in this one, we hope to have either a Gwinnett drill or a multi-county drill at a later date. I will pass this information on to you when plans are finalized.

Our class on message handling was on October 24, and was taught by Chuck Calmbacher, AD4JU, our District Emergency Coordinator. Message handling is a large part of ARES and proper format is encouraged. You are encouraged to practice on our net by sending messages to others on the net.

This is a good chance for practice rather than during an emergency. Don't be afraid of making mistakes or unsure of how to format a message. No one is perfect, and we all can use the practice. At some future date everyone will be asked to compose a short message for someone on the net.

Our next class is on hazardous materials, on November 14th starting at 7:30PM and lasting until 9:00PM at the Justice and Administration Building in Lawrenceville. This class will also be taught by Chuck, AD4JU and you must make reservations for this one either by telling me on the net, or calling my home.

There is a book that can be purchased that night for \$3.00 and we need to know how many books to bring to the meeting. There is also limited seating, so let me know if you plan to attend. ♦



Detach and Mail

GARS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (SHORT FORM)

Amateur Callsign: _____ Class: _____ Expires: __/__/__ Date of Birth: __/__/__

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ Work-Phone: _____ - _____ Fax-Phone: _____ - _____

Type of membership: []-Individual []-Family ARRL Member? Y/N _____ Life? Y/N _____

Additional members for Family Memberships:

NAME:	CALLSIGN:	CLASS (circle 1)	BIRTH DATE	ARRL Y/N	LIFE? Y/N
_____	_____	E A G T+ T N	__/__/__	Y/N	Y/N
_____	_____	E A G T+ T N	__/__/__	Y/N	Y/N
_____	_____	E A G T+ T N	__/__/__	Y/N	Y/N

Check Interests:

[] -Class instruction [] -Field Day operation [] -Repeater maintenance [] -GARS club booth staffing [] -Community events

[] -Emergency [] -Administrative [] -Fund raisers

[] Other _____

Dues: April 1 to Sept 30
\$25.00 for Individual Memberships
\$35.00 for Family Memberships

From Oct. 1 to Dec. 31:
\$12.50 for Individual Membership
\$17.50 for Family Memberships

From Jan 1 to March 31
\$6.25 for Individual Membership
\$8.75 for Family Memberships



Mail your completed application with check made out to GARS to: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 88 Lilburn, Ga 30226

GARS News publishes the Atlanta Metro Area VE/VEC Examination Schedules as a service to its members and assumes no responsibility for errors or schedule changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and/or certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

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1st Sunday - Lawrenceville W5YI-VEC - Jackson EMC
461 Swanson Rd - Lawrenceville - 2:00PM
Duane Reynolds, WB2YAD - 962-9582

1st Monday - Roswell ARRL-VEC 7:30PM
St Ann Catholic Church - 4905 Roswell Rd - Marietta
Delaine McCarthy, KM4FV - 993-9758

1st Saturday - Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt Bldg
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro - 9:00AM
George White, KN4NG 361-6850

2nd Sundays - First Presbyterian Church
183 West Main Street, Cartersville 3:00PM
Mark Swicord, KD4EYF - 975-1309

2nd Tuesday - Walton EMC 7:00PM
3645 - Lenora Church Rd, Snellville
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759

2nd Saturday - Stn Mtn CA-VEC 8:30AM
Stone Mountain Methodist Church, 5312 W. Mountain Street
Hal Martin, KI4RD - 978-9160

3rd Saturdays - Marietta First United Methodist Church
56 Whitlock Ave, Room 319 - 9:00AM
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171

4th Sunday N Atlanta ARRL-VEC - Episcopal Church of the Atonement
2:30PM Highpoint Rd, Atlanta
John King, AB4GK - 381-5291

4th Friday GARS W5YI-VEC - 7:00PM - St John Neumann Church
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks Trickum Rd, Lilburn
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362 Headphones!

HAMFEST CALENDAR

Nov	12 .. Hamfest Myrtle Beach, SC	
Nov	12 .. Hamfest Montgomery, AL	146.84-
Nov	19-20 Suncoast Convention, Tampa FL	
Dec	3 ... Hamfest, Dothan AL	

?=Date not confirmed. Several entries taken from SERA Journal.
Georgia locations are bold, Nearby locations are bold and underlined

NOVEMBER 17th
**GARS MEETING AT
WILLIAMS SEAFOOD
on Buford Hwy.**



P.O. Box 88
Lilburn, Ga 30226



ap: 3801 sd: 4482 dues: 01-Apr-95

GARS Meeting at WILLIAMS SEAFOOD on Buford Highway on the 3rd Thursday, November 17th. Join us for fun and fellowship at 6:00PM. You don't have to eat, if not hungry just come right to the meeting room..